

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

OCT 04 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 1 of page 4 of the present application (paragraph [0021] as numbered for publication) as follows:

[0021] Assembly of this preferred embodiment includes placing nut 20 over stem 12 until stem nut abutment 32 becomes near or proximate to nut stem abutment 44, as depicted. Then, collar 16 is placed over stem 12 until assembly ridge 38 abuts assembly stop ring 28. Assembly stop ring 28 is optional. In some instances, the difference in diameters of barbs 14 and the portion of stem 12 having knurling 24 are too to similar to allow assembly stop ring 28 to be distinct. Where assembly stop ring 28 is available and distinct, assembly stop ring 28 and assembly ridge 38, aided by ramp 30, provide easy reference to locate collar 16 upon stem 12. Referring to Figure 7, the three pieces once assembled in this manner are placed in a swaging tool, of common design (not depicted), having multiple staking dies 46. For the fitting depicted, the staking dies commonly number eight. The swaging tool presses staking dies 46 against collar 16 on both sides of wrench flats 18 with adequate force to, at once, compress collar 16 to the point where axial retention ridge 36 takes on a diameter smaller than axial stop ring 26 and knurling mating surface 40 is forcefully compressed against knurling 24, as depicted in Figure 2. This operation is evidenced by the staking marks 22 left behind. Thus with a single operation nut 20 is trapped onto stem 12, collar 16 is affixed to stem 12 with a high degree of resistance to rotation upon stem 12 and affixed with a high degree of resistance to being dislodged axially. The result is a hydraulic hose fitting that has been assembled very efficiently and is very robust for applications demanding substantial torque be placed upon the fitting during mating to an apparatus fitting (not depicted) as well as being subjected to substantial axial loads during use.